

Molly McCarter

From: Rice, Stephanie <srice@blm.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 7, 2019 5:12 PM
To: Molly McCarter
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] NPR-A Scoping Comments

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From: **Don Ross** <evrevross01@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jan 27, 2019 at 2:36 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NPR-A Scoping Comments
To: <srice@blm.gov>

It is difficult for those of us in the public to imagine a legitimate rationale for changing a reasonable plan already written under a previous administration that now requires a rewrite because this administration sees more oil and more profit for industry as a legitimate end while giving short shrift to the environmentally sensitive area of the Teshekpuk Lake Special Area. It remains a flawed process, to accommodate special interests with a bone thrown to the public for their our input which will be ignored except to fulfill a legal mandate. '

Given a presumption that a decision has already been made to open this area the whole process lacks a fundamental honesty and trustworthiness when it comes to public process and a sincere desire to arrive at a decision that is in the best interests of preserving the public good; to wit, in protecting the opportunity for subsistence by local communities and insuring long term viability of the Teshekpuk Caribou herd and the community of life in general in this area.

That said I appreciate there is an obligation to record something but let those resulting words be as true a rendering as possible of what may be lost. There can be no positive gains for the natural world when exploitative and extractive uses are pitted against it for "short term" gain. . That is western civilization's legacy of being on this planet which now threatens all of life on Earth due to climate change. We continue down the path of more fossil fuel use at our collective peril given this reality and its cause from the burning of same.

The No Action alternative is an appropriate outcome where the collective good is preserved by doing no more harm.

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